

## **AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS**

### **In the claims:**

This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in this application.

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) Device for supporting lumbar vertebrae and/or sacrospinal muscles commonly called a lumbar belt, comprising

a posterior lumbar support part (1),

two lateral parts (2a, 2b), each lateral part (2a, 2b) being provided with a front free end, a free back end, -closing means (12a) and complementary closing means (12b) at their respective front free ends, and with complementary adjustable fixing means (9a, 9b) connected to the free back ends of each lateral parts (2a, 2b),

the—an outside face of the—a posterior part (1) comprising fixing means capable of cooperating with the complementary adjustable fixing means (9a, 9b) connected to the free back ends of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) in such a way that the free back ends of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) are capable of closing the belt without being overlapped on the abdominal region of the patient.

2. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, characterised in that the posterior part (1) has a globally trapezoidal shape, the—a large and the—a small base of the trapezoid being convex, provided with at least four whalebones, two central whalebones (4) and two external whalebones (5) extending transversally from the small base to the large base and distributed on each side of the—an axis of symmetry (S) of the posterior part (1).

3. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 2, characterised in that the central whalebones (4) are fixed on the outside face of the posterior part (1) by a sheath (6) obtained from a smooth material so as to prevent fixing of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) on the said central whalebones (4).

4. (Currently Amended) Device according to any one of the previous claims, characterised in that each lateral part (2a, 2b) comprises a front end and at least one transverse whalebone (10a, 10b) close to its-the front end for abdominal support.

5. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, characterised in that it comprises two secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) comprising free ends, a middle face, an outside face and attachment means on its free ends, on its inside face (15a, 16a, 15b, 16b) that can cooperate firstly with complementary attachment means on the outside face of the said secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) and / or on an outside face of the principal-lateral parts (2a, 2b), and secondly with the a complementary attachment means of the outside face of the posterior lumbar subpart part (1).

6. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 1, characterised in that the posterior lumbar support part and / or the principal-lateral parts (2a, 2b) and / or the-secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) are obtained from a longitudinally elastic fabric.

7. (Currently Amended) Device according to claim 2, characterised in that the central (4) and external (5) whalebones of the posterior part (1) are curved such that the outside face of the posterior part (1) is concave and ~~the~~an inside face of the said posterior part (1) that bears on the patient's lumbar vertebrae is convex.

8. (Currently Amended) Device according to ~~any one of the previous claims~~ Claim 5, characterised in that the attachment means of the outside face of the posterior lumbar support part (1) and / or the principal lateral parts (2a, 2b) and / or the secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) and the complementary attachment means (9a, 9b, 15a, 16a, 15b, 16b, 12b) consist of attachment means of the loop / hook or hook / hook type.

9. (Currently Amended) Device for supporting lumbar vertebrae and/or sacrospinal muscles commonly called a lumbar belt, comprising

a posterior lumbar support part (1), wherein said posterior lumbar support part (1) has a globally trapezoidal shape, ~~the~~a large and ~~the~~a small base of the trapezoid being convex, provided with at least four whalebones, two central whalebones (4) and two external whalebones (5) extending transversally from the small base to the large base and distributed on each side of ~~the~~an axis of symmetry (S) of the posterior part (1),

two lateral parts (2a, 2b), each lateral part (2a, 2b) being provided with closing means (12a) and complementary closing means (12b) at their respective front free ends, and with complementary adjustable fixing means (9a, 9b) connected to the free back ends of each lateral parts (2a, 2b),

the outside face of the posterior part (1) comprising fixing means capable of cooperating with complementary adjustable fixing means (9a, 9b) connected to the free back ends of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) in such a way that the free back ends of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) are capable of closing the belt without being overlapped on the abdominal region of the patient.

10. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 9, characterised in that the central whalebones (4) are fixed on the outside face of the posterior part (1) by a sheath (6) obtained from a smooth material so as to prevent fixing of the lateral parts (2a, 2b) on the said central whalebones (4).

11. (Previously Presented) Device according to any one of claims 9 or 10 characterised in that each lateral part (2a, 2b) comprises at least one transverse whalebone (10a, 10b) close to its front end for abdominal support.

12. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 9, characterised in that it comprises two secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) comprising attachment means on its free ends, on its inside face (15a, 16a, 15b, 16b) that can cooperate firstly with complementary attachment means on the outside face of the said secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) and / or principal lateral parts (2a, 2b), and secondly with the complementary attachment means of the outside face of the posterior part (1).

13. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 9, characterised in that the posterior part and / or the principal lateral parts (2a, 2b) and / or the secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) are obtained from a longitudinally elastic fabric.

14. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 9, characterised in that the central (4) and external (5) whalebones of the posterior part (1) are curved such that the outside face of the posterior part (1) is concave and the inside face of the said posterior part (1) that bears on the patient's lumbar vertebrae is convex.

15. (Previously Presented) Device according to claim 9, characterised in that the attachment means of the outside face of the posterior part (1) and / or the principal lateral parts (2a, 2b) and / or the secondary lateral parts (14a, 14b) and the complementary attachment means (9a, 9b, 15a, 16a, 15b, 16b, 12b) consist of attachment means of the loop / hook or hook / hook type.